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Dated: January 22, 2003

Signature: *Lawrence E. Russ*

(Lawrence E. Russ)

#15 Response  
v/e M. Baunson  
2/3/03  
REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

Docket No.: 99P7451US  
INTECH 3.0-038  
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
J. Mandelman et al.

Application No.: 09/245,269

Group Art Unit: 2814

Filed: February 5, 1999

Examiner: D. Nguyen

For: FIELD-SHIELD-TRENCH ISOLATION FOR  
GIGABIT DRAMS

Box AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

RESPONSE AFTER FINAL ACTION

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated November 8, 2002, Applicants submit the following remarks:

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested. Claims 1-2 remain in this application and are resubmitted for the Examiner's consideration.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-2 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kenney (U.S. Patent No. 5,523,593) in view of Kagaya (U.S. Patent No. 6,020,250). It is submitted, however, that the claims are patentably distinguishable over the references.

The Kenney patent is concerned with forming trenches *that contact the source/drain regions* rather than with *isolation trenches*. Openings 170 are formed in a

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